

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A print system for providing print service for printing an electronic document in response to a print request including designation of the electronic

5 document to be printed, the print system comprising:

judging means for judging whether a type of the print request is a type that the print request is transferred from a client apparatus to a server apparatus and image data is transferred via a network
10 from the server apparatus to a printer, or a type that the print request is directly transferred from the client apparatus to the printer; and

computing means for computing a use fee of the print service in accordance with the judged type of the
15 print request.

2. A print system according to claim 1, wherein said computing means selects a use fee system of the print service in accordance with information on the
20 judged type of the print request.

3. A print system according to claim 1, wherein the server apparatus has a function of managing the print service and the server apparatus includes said
25 computing means.

4. A print system according to claim 1, wherein

the server apparatus transmits registered image data to the printer in response to the print request from the client apparatus.

5 5. A print system according to claim 1, wherein said computing means computes the use fee in accordance with a print result notice from the printer.

10 6. A print system according to claim 1, wherein a fee system for the type that the print request is transferred from the client apparatus to the server apparatus and the image data is transferred via the network from the server apparatus to a printer is different from a fee system for the type that the print
15 request is directly transferred from the client apparatus to the printer.

20 7. A method of providing print service for printing an electronic document in response to a print request including designation of the electronic document to be printed, the method comprising the steps of:

25 judging whether a type of the print request is a type that the print request is transferred from a client apparatus to a server apparatus and image data is transferred via a network from the server apparatus to a printer, or a type that the print request is

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directly transferred from the client apparatus to the printer; and

computing a use fee of the print service in accordance with the judged type of the print request.

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8. A method according to claim 7, wherein said computing step selects a use fee system of the print service in accordance with information on the judged type of the print request.

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9. A method according to claim 7, wherein a fee system for the type that the print request is transferred from the client apparatus to the server apparatus and the image data is transferred via the network from the server apparatus to a printer is different from a fee system for the type that the print request is directly transferred from the client apparatus to the printer.

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10. A method according to claim 7, wherein the server apparatus transmits registered image data to the printer in response to the print request from the client apparatus.

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11. A server apparatus for managing print service for printing an electronic document in response to a print request including designation of the electronic

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document to be printed, the server apparatus
comprising:

judging means for judging whether a type of the
print request is a type that the print request is
5 transferred from a client apparatus to a server
apparatus and image data is transferred via a network
from the server apparatus to a printer, or a type that
the print request is directly transferred from the
client apparatus to the printer; and

10 computing means for computing a use fee of the
print service in accordance with the judged type of the
print request.

12. A server apparatus according to claim 11,
15 further comprising storage means for storing data
representative of a use fee system for each type of the
print request, wherein said computing means selects the
use fee system of the print service in accordance with
information on the judged type of the print request.

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13. A server apparatus according to claim 11,
wherein the server apparatus is connected to the client
apparatus and the printer via the network.

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14. A server apparatus according to claim 11,
further comprising transmission means for transmitting
registered image data to the printer in response to the

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print request from the client apparatus.

15. A server apparatus according to claim 11,
further comprising reception means for receiving a
5 print result notice from the printer, wherein said
computing means computes a use fee in accordance with
the received print result notice.

16. A server apparatus according to claim 11,
10 wherein a fee system for the type that the print
request is transferred from the client apparatus to the
server apparatus and the image data is transferred via
the network from the server apparatus to a printer is
different from a fee system for the type that the print
15 request is directly transferred from the client
apparatus to the printer.

17. A computer readable storage medium storing a
program for managing print service for printing an
20 electronic document in response to a print request
including designation of the electronic document to be
printed, the program making a computer execute
following steps:

a step of judging whether a type of the print
25 request is a type that the print request is transferred
from a client apparatus to a server apparatus and image
data is transferred via a network from the server

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a step of computing a use fee of the print service
5 in accordance with the judged type of the print
request.

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fee in accordance with the received print result notice.

22. A computer readable storage medium according
5 to claim 17, wherein a fee system for the type that the
print request is transferred from the client apparatus
to the server apparatus and the image data is
transferred via the network from the server apparatus
to a printer is different from a fee system for the
10 type that the print request is directly transferred
from the client apparatus to the printer.

23. A program for managing print service for
printing an electronic document in response to a print
15 request including designation of the electronic
document to be printed, the program making a computer
execute following steps:

a step of judging whether a type of the print
request is a type that the print request is transferred
20 from a client apparatus to a server apparatus and image
data is transferred via a network from the server
apparatus to a printer, or a type that the print
request is directly transferred from the client
apparatus to the printer; and

25 a step of computing a use fee of the print service
in accordance with the judged type of the print
request.

24. A program according to claim 23, wherein said computing step selects a use fee system of the print service in accordance with information on the judged type of the print request.

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25. A program according to claim 23, wherein the server apparatus is connected to the client apparatus and the printer via the network.

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26. A program according to claim 23, wherein the program makes the computer execute a step of transmitting registered image data to the printer in response to the print request from the client apparatus.

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27. A program according to claim 23, wherein the program makes the computer execute a step of receiving a print result notice from the printer, wherein said computing step computes a use fee in accordance with the received print result notice.

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28. A program according to claim 23, wherein a fee system for the type that the print request is transferred from the client apparatus to the server apparatus and the image data is transferred via the network from the server apparatus to a printer is different from a fee system for the type that the print

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request is directly transferred from the client apparatus to the printer.

29. A print system for providing print service for printing an electronic document in response to a print request including designation of the electronic document to be printed, the print system comprising:

managing means for managing identification information for identifying a user requesting the print service and information on use records of the print service used by the user, both of the information being related to each other; and

computing means for computing a use fee of the print service in accordance with the information on the use records of the print service used by the user managed by said managing means.

30. A print system according to claim 29, wherein said computing means determines a discount rate of a base use fee of the print service in accordance with the information on the use records of the print service used by the user, and determines a settlement amount of the print service in accordance with the determined discount rate.

31. A print system according to claim 29, further comprising:

discount information managing means for managing information on the discount rate of the base use fee of the print service to be applied to the user; and

notifying means for notifying the user of an effect that the information on the discount rate of the base use fee of the print service was updated,

wherein said discount information managing means updates the information on the discount rate of the base use fee of the print service in accordance with information on the use records of the print service used by the user, and said notifying means notifies the user of the effect that the information on the discount rate of the base use fee of the print service was updated.

32. A print system according to claim 29, wherein said managing means includes a management table storing identification information for identifying the user and information on the use records of the print service used by the user, both of the information being related to each other, and updates the management table for the user in accordance with use of the print service by the user.

33. A print system according to claim 29, further comprising notifying means for notifying the user of an effect that the management table was updated, wherein

said managing means updates the management table for the user in accordance with use of the print service by the user, and said notifying means notifies the user of an effect that the management table was updated.

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34. A print system according to claim 29, further comprising condition determining means for determining a charge condition applied to the user, in accordance with the information on the use records of the print service used by the user.

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35. A print system according to claim 29, further comprising:

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condition managing means for managing identification information for identifying the user and information on a charge condition applied to the user, both of the information being related to each other; and

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notifying means for notifying the user of an effect that the charge condition applied to the user was updated,

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wherein said condition determining means updates information on the charge condition applied to the user in accordance with use of the print service by the user and said notifying means notifies the user of the effect that the charge condition applied to the user was updated.

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36. A method of providing print service for printing an electronic document in response to a print request including designation of the electronic document to be printed, the method comprising:

5 a managing step of managing identification information for identifying a user requesting the print service and information on use records of the print service used by the user, both of the information being related to each other; and

10 a computing step of computing a use fee of the print service in accordance with the information on the use records of the print service used by the user managed by said managing means.

15 37. A method according to claim 36, wherein said computing step determines a discount rate of a base use fee of the print service in accordance with the information on the use records of the print service used by the user, and determines a settlement amount of
20 the print service in accordance with the determined discount rate.

38. A method according to claim 36, further comprising:

25 a discount information managing step of managing information on the discount rate of the base use fee of the print service to be applied to the user; and

wherein said discount information managing step
5 updates the information on the discount rate of the
base use fee of the print service in accordance with
information on the use records of the print service
used by the user, and said notifying step notifies the
user of the effect that the information on the discount
0 rate of the base use fee of the print service was
updated.

39. A method according to claim 36, wherein said
managing step is provided with a management table
15 storing identification information for identifying the
user and information on the use records of the print
service used by the user, both of the information being
related to each other, and updates the management table
for the user in accordance with use of the print
20 service by the user.

40. A method according to claim 36, further comprising a notifying step of notifying the user of an effect that the management table was updated, wherein said managing step updates the management table for the user in accordance with use of the print service by the user, and said notifying step notifies the user of an

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43. A storing medium storing a program for providing print service for printing an electronic

document in response to a print request including designation of the electronic document to be printed, the program making a computer execute following steps:

5 a managing step of managing identification information for identifying a user requesting the print service and information on use records of the print service used by the user, both of the information being related to each other; and

10 a computing step of computing a use fee of the print service in accordance with the information on the use records of the print service used by the user managed by said managing means.

15 44. A storage medium according to claim 43, wherein:

the program makes the computer execute a discount information managing step of managing information on the discount rate of the base use fee of the print service to be applied to the user and a notifying step
20 of notifying the user of an effect that the information on the discount rate of the base use fee of the print service was updated, and

said discount information managing step updates the information on the discount rate of the base use
25 fee of the print service in accordance with information on the use records of the print service used by the user, and said notifying step notifies the user of the

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the program makes the computer execute a notifying step of notifying the user of an effect that the management table was updated, and

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that the charge condition applied to the user was updated.

47. A program for providing print service for
5 printing an electronic document in response to a print
request including designation of the electronic
document to be printed, the program making a computer
execute following steps:

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a managing step of managing identification
10 information for identifying a user requesting the print
service and information on use records of the print
service used by the user, both of the information being
related to each other; and

a computing step of computing a use fee of the
15 print service in accordance with the information on the
use records of the print service used by the user
managed by said managing means.

48. A program according to claim 47, wherein:
20 the program makes the computer execute a discount
information managing step of managing information on
the discount rate of the base use fee of the print
service to be applied to the user and a notifying step
of notifying the user of an effect that the information
25 on the discount rate of the base use fee of the print
service was updated, and

said discount information managing step updates

the information on the discount rate of the base use
fee of the print service in accordance with information
on the use records of the print service used by the
user, and said notifying step notifies the user of the
5 effect that the information on the discount rate of the
base use fee of the print service was updated.

49. A program according to claim 47, wherein:
the program makes the computer execute a notifying
10 step of notifying the user of an effect that the
management table was updated, and
said managing step updates the management table
for the user in accordance with use of the print
service by the user, and said notifying step notifies
15 the user of an effect that the management table was
updated.

50. A program according to claim 47, wherein:
the program makes the computer execute a condition
20 managing step of managing identification information
for identifying the user and information on a charge
condition applied to the user, both of the information
being related to each other, and a notifying step of
notifying the user of an effect that the charge
25 condition applied to the user was updated, and
said condition determining step updates
information on the charge condition applied to the user

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